

WALTER GEORGE SMITH, A LAWYER, NOT A POLITICIAN

Town Meeting Party's Candidate for Register of Wills Is a Man of Force, Honest, Earnest and Competent

WHEN the management of a big and well-managed business concerns finds itself in need of men of big resources in important positions it goes into the market for men. By newspaper advertisement or other means it makes its requirements known. It solicits applications. Statements and the records of all applicants are investigated and scrutinized. The bigger and better managed the concern is, the more jealous of its good name in the business world, the more careful its inquiries. It does not mind spending two weeks of a \$200-a-month man's time to find out which of a half dozen applicants is the most desirable for a \$50-a-month clerkship.

A city is a big business concern. Philadelphia is a big business concern. It is in the market for men and there are many applicants. As the success of any other big business concern depends upon the care and success with which it picks its employees, so the success of Philadelphia depends upon the care and success with which it chooses its.

As a man employed for the purpose would investigate the records of applicants for positions in a big commercial or industrial house the Evening Ledger has made, for the benefit of the city of Philadelphia, some investigations of the records of applicants for important city posts. The results of those inquiries are being published in a series of articles, the sixth of which is printed herewith.

WALTER GEORGE SMITH, candidate for Register of Wills on the Town Meeting party ticket, is a lawyer. He has his office in the Witherspoon Building. He is a man of quiet dignity, a man of force and vigor held well in restraint. His manner is courteous, yet always direct and businesslike.

The best and finest members of the learned professions are devoted to them with a sort of religious devotion. Mr. Smith is one of these. The law has been one of the big interests of his life. In the early years of his manhood he was active in politics, but of late years his political activities have consisted in little more than going to the polls and voting for the men and policies he believed best for the city, State and nation.

Mr. Smith was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with the degree of bachelor of arts in 1873, and then worked for a year and a half as a clerk in the office of the general superintendent of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Altoona. In 1875 he entered the law school of the University of Pennsylvania and upon graduation two years later was admitted to the bar under the nominal preceptorship of Furman Shepard.

Mr. Smith then took a desk in the office of Ansa I. Fish, but it was not until 1879 that he began actively the practice of his profession. For several years he was associated with Francis Hawley. The partnership was dissolved in 1889, since which time Mr. Smith has practiced alone.

WON SUCCESS EARLY. During the early period of practice Mr. Smith enjoyed more than ordinary success. For many years, however, he has devoted all his time to office work, business litigation and possible litigation and preparing causes.

Governor Pennypacker appointed Mr. Smith a member of the Pennsylvania Commission on Uniform State Laws. He has been reappointed continuously by the Governors ever since. These appointments have been entirely without political significance, the reason being selected because of their fitness for the work.

The Commission on Uniform State Laws of the several States, as their name would indicate, have the duty of making uniform wherever uniformity is desirable. The purpose is to simplify legal forms, reducing their number and making them easier, not only for laymen, but for lawyers themselves to understand. Uniformity is sought in all matters not affected by conditions that are local to the several States.

The commission of the States have conferred from time to time. Mr. Smith has for three years been president of the Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. His present colleagues on the Pennsylvania Commission are Judge W. H.

GLI ITALIANI PRONTI PER LA GRANDE LOTTA

Le Truppe del Generale Cadorna non Tarderanno a Scacciare l'Invasore

ROMA, 3 novembre. Notizie pervenute dalla fronte di battaglia recano che con le forze stregate da ambo le parti e con l'ammassamento delle riserve, delle artiglierie e munizioni, compiuto dagli italiani e dagli austro-tedeschi per l'imminente conflitto, la grande battaglia del Tagliamento puo' dirsi iniziata e che i locali combattimenti tentati da contingenti tedeschi contro le posizioni italiane non hanno finora di difesa miravano ad assicurare vantaggi strategici per l'invasore.

Un dispaccio dalla Svizzera annuncia che i tedeschi hanno trasportato un gran numero di uomini e di cannoni nel Trentino, apparentemente con l'idea di fare un colpo da dett regione, tentato di colpire di fianco le truppe del generale Cadorna sulla linea del Tagliamento.

Dai punti piu' orientali del Trentino si allunga la linea di battaglia verso l'offensiva in questa direzione sembra «la stata contemplata dal generale von Mackensen nei piani per l'attacco delle truppe italiane.

Il «Giornale d'Italia» considerando la situazione del nostro fronte, «tramendone» migliorata, dice che l'offensiva degli austro-tedeschi era quello di tagliare in due l'esercito italiano, ma tale obiettivo puo' oggi considerarsi completamente fallito.

Il periodo piu' acuto della crisi militare, creato dal crollo inaspettato di un punto essenziale della fronte di battaglia italiana, punto che era considerato come la chiave strategica della fronte Glubba, puo' dirsi ormai superato. L'esercito italiano, con abilitissima manovra combinata per riorganizzarsi, dimostrando devoluzione all'opera ed al comando dei capi, animato da un ardore, combattivo reso piu' tenace dallo scacco patito a dalla determinazione di una rivincita.

La guerra italiana puo' dirsi ha mutato completamente i suoi caratteri ed lo dimostra l'adunata delle forze alleate nella pianura veneta. Essa e' diventata guerra di linee strategiche, in quella dove coesistono avversarie se apprestano a combattere quei campi di battaglia su cui molte volte corse di secoli furono segnati i destini di Europa.

Ad ogni modo la ritirata delle armate di Cadorna, secondo i piani da lui stabiliti, si e' effettuata in pieno ordine ed il grosso dell'esercito italiano, in unione a contingenti francesi, ed anche trovandosi saldamente schierato sulle linee del Tagliamento pronto alla riscossa.

La grande e decisiva battaglia, e' perciò imminente anche perche' il comando italiano non vuol dar tempo alle orde austro-tedesche di potersi consolidare nel territorio occupato.

Il morale delle truppe italiane e' elevatissimo e nel cuore di tutti i combattenti prevale la determinazione di non tollerare a lungo l'invasore sul suolo italiano.

Nei punti d'Italia giungono prove del sano patriottismo che ogni anima tutta gli italiani. Tutti, in ogni caso, chiedono essere inviati alle fronte di battaglia. I volontari italiani hanno chiesto di marciare in corpo contro l'invasore, pronti a sacrificare la loro vita sull'altare della Patria.

Migliaia di veterani della presente guerra, indignatissimi vedendo di invadere nelle loro case, intenzione per ritornare sul campo di battaglia.

WHAT JEWS HAVE DONE FOR THE BIBLE—ALLIANCES AFTER WAR

TRANSLATIONS OF THE BIBLE

What the Jewish Scholars have Done Ignored in Current Christian Accounts of the Work—Dr. Margolis Has Covered the Whole Field

IT IS a curious and interesting fact that in the books in common circulation dealing with the translation of the Bible into the vernacular of modern nations there is a virtual no reference to the work of the Jews. Vice Provost Penman, of the University of Pennsylvania, in an admirable book delivered in Houston Hall two weeks ago, made absolutely no reference to the work of the Jewish scholars. Yet one would naturally suppose that the sacred book of ancient Israel would have had the attention of the race through which it has come to us and that the various German versions would have made some effort to reproduce it in the tongue understandable of the common people.

A matter of fact the Jews have made various translations into modern languages. It was in Philadelphia that Isaac Leeser issued a complete version of the Testament in English in 1833. For more than half a century this has been the accepted version used in the synagogues of England and America. And Leeser based his version on the King James Bible, but he used, in addition to the texts of the original available to him, the various German versions translated by Jewish scholars. He made so many changes that his translation is regarded as an independent and original work.

Dr. Margolis, in his translation of the Bible, has covered the whole field. He has taken a broader view of the subject. In an excellent little handbook on "The Story of Bible Translations" he has covered the whole field. He tells the story of the Septuagint, the Vulgate, of Luther's Bible, of the early English translations and of the King James version, bringing his narrative down to the latest revision by the United Bible Societies. He has also covered the story of the Jewish scholars and their work.

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Dr. Margolis's translation of the Bible is a masterpiece of scholarship. It is a work of great practical moment. The war has changed the temper of mind of British statesmen. They are now speaking of the British Commonwealth instead of the British Empire. An imperious war cabinet has been created in which the premiers of the dominions, no longer called colonies, sit. There is a growing demand that in the future the dominions be consulted in all matters of foreign policy in which the conduct of the whole group of self-governing nations is involved.

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AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A LITTLE BOY

Professor Showerman Has Produced a Charming Tale of Life on a Farm

If your childhood was spent entirely or in part in the country or if there still lingers in your delightful memories of happy vacations spent on a farm, then by all means you should read "A Country Child," by Grant Showerman, for in the pages of the book you will live again in those glad-some days, your mind will wander back to your own childhood, and you will sense again all the sounds and smells and tastes which were peculiar to that time in your life.

Mr. Showerman, who is professor of Latin literature at the University of Wisconsin, wrote his first childhood book, "A Country Chronicle," about a year ago, that production was acclaimed a unique departure in fiction, and a second, "A Country Child," is now being published. It is the same little boy who tells the story, only now he is younger than in the first book. Underlying the narrative is a worthy, earnest, and common-sense, though narrow philosophy of a backwoods settlement.

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There is no writer in closer touch with the simple homely life of the country in America than Homer Greene, of Honesdale, Pa., unless it be C. A. Stephens, of Norway Lake, Me. Mr. Greene is nominally a writer of juvenile stories, but his books are read by the fathers and mothers in the villages and on the farms with as much interest as by the boys and the girls. His latest story, "The Flag," appearing at a time when the spirit of patriotism is active, is likely to be read in the cities with as much interest as in the country. The enthusiastic admirer of it who called it "a kind of Junior Man Without a Country," was not far wrong.

It is here when the story opens in a school boy who is asked at a trick played by the leader of the opposing forces in a snowball battle to tramp on the flag, in which the leader had wrapped himself to escape attack, and says outrageous things about it. The other boys, indignant at his conduct, will have no more to do with him, and when he refuses to apologize he has to leave the school with his grand-grandfather, where he has been living, and to his poor maternal grandfather's home. The flag which he had desecrated had been published in 1872 and a second, and revised edition appeared in 1886. The first edition contains a chapter added by the late Admiral Preble, of the United States Navy, in which he tells the story of the flag incident. He finally enlists in a Canadian regiment and goes to the war in France. He becomes a hero and is seriously wounded, is reconciled to his paternal grandfather and the story ends happily. The book is likely to enlarge Mr. Greene's following among both the young and mature.

THE FLAG. By Homer Greene, author of "The Boy Who Told the Truth." Philadelphia: George W. Jacobus & Co. \$1.25.

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Native Fairy Tales

American children have been fed for so many years on the fairy stories and the myths and legends of old world that it is about time their attention was directed toward the body of American myths. Patient men have gathered a large body of Indian love and written it down, but it has been prepared almost exclusively by ethnologists interested in the study of the primitive Americans. In order to make it understandable by the average reader it must be rewritten from the literal transcript of the Indian story tellers' version into a readable narrative. Francis J. Flaherty has undertaken this task and he has rewritten a large mass of these Indian fairy stories and put them into a book along with the legends of the Northwest and other authors. She has grouped them in twelve divisions classified according to the months of the year, and she has indicated the tribe of Indians with which each tale originated. The collection will be entertaining to children, and adults who are given no serious thought to the native legends of the West. It is a work of great value to the student of the history of the American people. It is a work of great value to the student of the history of the American people.

THE INDIAN FAIRY TALES. By Francis J. Flaherty. Philadelphia: George W. Jacobus & Co. \$1.25.

Next to the Russian Revolution the Biggest Event of the War

Such is one reviewer's opinion of Henri Barbusse's great war novel

UNDER FIRE

THE STORY OF A SQUAD

Here are some other opinions: "The strongest and grimest book yet written about the war."—N. Y. NA. "It is a masterpiece."—NEW YORKER. "The supreme novel of the war. . . . If any book could kill war, this is that book."—LONDON OBSERVER. "This picture of war from a new point of view is a masterpiece."—LONDON OBSERVER. "The most interesting and dramatic of the war."—LONDON OBSERVER.

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WHAT WILL HAPPEN AFTER THE WAR?

George L. Beer Forecasts a Closer Relation Between the English-Speaking Nations

Men who look ahead have been thinking for months about the possible effect of the war in which we are now engaged in. In the English-speaking world, there is a growing realization that the war will have a profound effect on the relations between the two great English-speaking nations. There are dreamers who foresee a closer union of America with its mother nation with the political capital on this continent reached easily from Australia and from South Africa, while the British Isles will become of less commercial and industrial importance than Australia. This dream is not within the domain of practical politics and will not be for generations so far as can be judged from present indications. But it is significant that it is dreamed now.

What the relations of the two English-speaking Powers are to be will soon become a matter of great practical moment. The war has changed the temper of mind of British statesmen. They are now speaking of the British Commonwealth instead of the British Empire. An imperious war cabinet has been created in which the premiers of the dominions, no longer called colonies, sit. There is a growing demand that in the future the dominions be consulted in all matters of foreign policy in which the conduct of the whole group of self-governing nations is involved.

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Reminds One of Barr

Readers who can remember the remarkable revival of twenty years ago are very likely to see some resemblance to Robert Barr's "Tekia" in Clara E. Laughlin's novel, "The Heart of Her Highness." The similarity in the opening chapters can be traced to Mr. Barr's work. "The Heart of Her Highness" lacks almost wholly the life and life that such tales should possess. It is plentiful there in almost a perfect form, but the author has done her work well enough to merit respectful attention. It is her own individual work that interests the reader.

THE HEART OF HER HIGHNESS. By Clara E. Laughlin. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$1.50.

Boche Barbarians

If the reader of Robert W. Chambers' latest novel, "Barbarians," finds the details a bit too gruesome for fiction it is perhaps because this world which affords the background for the story, is the most gruesome tragedy history has even known, and because Mr. Chambers strives for the most realistic realism. The depressing tendency is relieved toward the end of the story, however, by the introduction of a charming French girl, and the last chapter is rounded out fittingly with the conventional, happy, love-story ending.

THE STORY is concerned with the early years of the war before America had taken any decisive steps to determine her position in the world. They meet, most of them for the first time, on the decks of a multi transport. The various succeeding chapters are disconnected tales of the adventures of these young, some single and some in groups. The barbarism and the brutality of the Boche are scored mercilessly in the story, and to make his type seem even more black, the beauty and charm of the French national soul is set off in contrast.

BARBARIANS. By Robert W. Chambers. New York: D. Appleton & Co. \$1.40.

Child Life in Holland

Cornelia deRoop has written of her life as a girl in Holland in the ninth volume in the series of "Children in Other Lands Books." Her story starts with her birth and ends with her arrival in America, when she has grown to young womanhood. It is full of the intimate details of the life of the Dutch, especially the life in the country. How the children play and how the adults work are described as well as the wedding feasts are described as well as the school, the canals and the farms. The book will give a lot of information to school children in America who read it and will make their own geographical studies more interesting.

CHILD LIFE IN HOLLAND. By Cornelia deRoop. New York: D. Appleton & Co. \$1.40.

Wherever there's a copy of "OVER THE TOP" Empey is playing to a crowded house.

12", 16 Illustrations. \$1.50

BEYOND

John Galsworthy

"Beyond" is a study of two good sports, father and daughter, who love intensely, suffer greatly, and bear their loss with fine fortitude. The story is a tragedy of sex, two tragedies indeed, cruelly moving and relentless, touched with somewhat that same color that makes "The Dark Flower" so somberly glowing.—Dial.

Charles Scribner's Sons Fifth Avenue, New York

The Mexican Problem

C. W. Barron

Author of "THE AUDACIOUS WAR"

In 1914 Mr. Barron went to Europe soon after the breaking out of the war to find its cause and probable duration. His book, "The Audacious War," was the first to clearly set forth the Hohenzollern ambitions and the world peace that was ultimately read.

When the Allies' feet all base in Mexico seem endangered, Mr. Barron went to Mexico to see the situation. He found a larger problem and devoted himself to the study of what would redress Mexico. The result is his book "The Mexican Problem."

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Edwin Markham, the poet, writes the author as follows: "I have read with interest your volume, 'The Mexican Problem.' It gives a large view of the struggle, the needs and the possibilities of this sister-land. It is an immense cosmic enterprise—this amalgamating into one nation a people of so many races and tongues, a people that has never got into step with modern progress, a people with no security of life, labor or liberty. You have thrown light upon some of the dark problems to be worked out by destiny; and you have given an exhilarating vision of what Mexico could be, if—rightly ordered, protected and educated—the took her true place in the sun.

"I agree with you that her salvation must be thru the redemption of 'The Man With the Hoe' and in the practice of the brotherhood of man. You will agree with me, I know, that life is now left too much to the direction of chance and chaos. Out of the earth comes all our sustenance, and each one should have access to the bounty of this our common heritage. Be the medium the gold, the wheat, the oil, still they are in the ground and labor must turn the product into human use. And when men finally organize a providence in human industry as they have in war, we will discover the Golden Rule as the working principle of life, and God will then have a working-form on earth.

"You have done a distinguished piece of work in giving us this view of Mexico 'close up.' I wish, with you, that these United States might be to Mexico as France was once to us; an arm to lean upon and a heart to trust. Our brother-love, better than our bayonets, can help to guide Mexico toward the march of civilization.

"Again my thanks for your writings."

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